

KCC 4789 (K-C 15,965)
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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An absorbent product comprising ~~an absorbent product selected from the group consisting of diapers, training pants, adult incontinence garments, feminine napkins, tampons, and interlabial pads~~ and a crystallized carbohydrate-hydrogen peroxide mixture for reducing the amount of irritation on a wearer's skin caused by microbial-produced volatile organic compounds, the mixture being capable of generating oxygen upon activation, the oxygen acting as a terminal electron acceptor for bacteria on or near the skin's surface such that the production of volatile organic compounds by the bacteria is reduced, the absorbent product being selected from the group consisting of diapers, training pants, adult incontinence garments, feminine napkins, and interlabial pads.

Claims 3-5 (Canceled).

6. (Currently Amended) The absorbent product as set forth in claim 1 wherein the absorbent product contains from about 0.01% (by weight of the absorbent product) to about 5% (by weight of the absorbent product) of the crystallized carbohydrate-hydrogen peroxide mixture.

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7. (Currently Amended) The absorbent product as set forth in claim 1 wherein the absorbent product contains from about 0.1% (by weight of the absorbent product) to about 1% (by weight of the absorbent product) of the crystallized carbohydrate-hydrogen peroxide mixture.

8. (Currently Amended) The absorbent product as set forth in claim 1 wherein the crystallized carbohydrate-hydrogen peroxide mixture is encapsulated in a shell.

9. (Currently Amended) The absorbent product as set forth in claim 8 wherein the diameter of the shell is no greater than about 25 micrometers.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~An absorbent product comprising an absorbent product selected from the group consisting of diapers, training pants, adult incontinence garments, feminine napkins, tampons, and interlabial pads and a~~ crystallized carbohydrate-hydrogen peroxide mixture for reducing the amount of irritation on a wearer's skin caused by microbial-produced volatile organic compounds, the mixture being capable of generating oxygen upon activation, the oxygen acting as a terminal electron acceptor for bacteria on or near the skin's surface such that the production of volatile organic compounds by the bacteria is reduced, the carbohydrate comprising a sugar alcohol, and wherein the absorbent product is selected from the group consisting of diapers, training pants, adult incontinence garments, feminine napkins, tampons, and interlabial pads.

11. (Currently Amended) The absorbent product as set forth in claim 10 wherein the sugar alcohol is selected from the group

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consisting of dulcitol, arabitol, adonitol, mannitol, sorbitol, xylitol, lactitol, maltitol, dithioerythritol, dithiothreitol, glycerol, galactitol, erythritol, inositol, ribitol, hydrogenated starch hydrolysates, and mixtures and combinations thereof.

12. (Currently Amended) The absorbent product as set forth in claim 10 wherein the sugar alcohol is selected from the group consisting of mannitol and sorbitol.

13. (Currently Amended) The absorbent product as set forth in claim 10 wherein the absorbent product contains from about 0.01% (by weight of the absorbent product) to about 5% (by weight of the absorbent product) of the crystallized carbohydrate-hydrogen peroxide mixture.

14. (Currently Amended) The absorbent product as set forth in claim 10 wherein the absorbent product contains from about 0.1% (by weight of the absorbent product) to about 1% (by weight of the absorbent product) of the crystallized carbohydrate-hydrogen peroxide mixture.

Claims 16-18 (Canceled).

19. (Currently Amended) The absorbent product as set forth in claim 10 wherein the crystallized carbohydrate-hydrogen peroxide mixture is encapsulated in a shell.

20. (Currently Amended) The absorbent product as set forth in claim 19 wherein the shell has a diameter no greater than about 25 micrometers.

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21. (Currently Amended) An absorbent product comprising an absorbent product selected from the group consisting of diapers, training pants, adult incontinence garments, feminine napkins, tampons, and interlabial pads and from about 0.01% (by weight of the absorbent product) to about 5% (by weight of the absorbent product) of a crystallized mannitol-hydrogen peroxide mixture for reducing the amount of irritation on a wearer's skin caused by microbial-produced volatile organic compounds, the mixture being capable of generating oxygen upon activation, the oxygen acting as a terminal electron acceptor for bacteria on or near the skin's surface such that the production of volatile organic compounds by the bacteria is reduced, wherein the absorbent product is selected from the group consisting of diapers, training pants, adult incontinence garments, feminine napkins, tampons, and interlabial pads.

43. (New) An absorbent product comprising a carbohydrate-hydrogen peroxide mixture for reducing the amount of irritation on a wearer's skin caused by volatile organic compounds produced by *Proteus mirabilis*, the absorbent product being selected from the group consisting of diapers, training pants, adult incontinence garments, feminine napkins, tampons, and interlabial pads, and wherein the carbohydrate-hydrogen peroxide mixture, upon activation, kills no more than about 20% of the *Proteus mirabilis* that produce the volatile organic compounds.

44. (New) The absorbent product as set forth in claim 43 wherein the absorbent product contains from about 0.01% (by weight of the absorbent product) to about 5% (by weight of the absorbent product) of the carbohydrate-hydrogen peroxide mixture.

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45. (New) The absorbent product as set forth in claim 43 wherein the absorbent product contains from about 0.1% (by weight of the absorbent product) to about 1% (by weight of the absorbent product) of the carbohydrate-hydrogen peroxide mixture.

46. (New) The absorbent product as set forth in claim 43 wherein the carbohydrate-hydrogen peroxide mixture is encapsulated in a shell.

47. (New) The absorbent product as set forth in claim 46 wherein the diameter of the shell is no greater than about 25 micrometers.

48. (New) The absorbent product as set forth in claim 43 wherein the carbohydrate-hydrogen peroxide mixture is crystallized.

49. (New) The absorbent product as set forth in claim 43 wherein the carbohydrate-hydrogen peroxide is mannitol-hydrogen peroxide.

50. (New) The absorbent product as set forth in claim 49 wherein the mannitol-hydrogen peroxide mixture is crystallized.